

TAKATA *et al.*
Application No. 09/722,404

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

Applicants' representative wishes to thank Examiners Abrishamkar and Zia for the courtesy extended during the interview on May 5, 2005. The substance of the interview is reflected in the comments below.

Claims 1-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as allegedly being "obvious" over Takata (U.S. Patent No. 6,594,777). While not acquiescing in this rejection, claims 1, 7, 8, 9, 14, 19 and 28 have been amended and the discussion below makes reference to the amended claims.

As previously discussed, the Takata patent discloses an arrangement for enabling the repair or update of an "unrewritable" memory device. The arrangement includes a mask ROM 1 and a flash memory device 2. The mask ROM has defective memory cells in a region 11A. The flash memory includes an address data storing region 21F for storing address data corresponding to the addresses for the region 11A and a modifying data storing region 21B for storing the correct data for the defective memory cells of region 11A. If an input address matches address data in region 21F (which is supplied to a register 21D for comparison with the input address), output from mask ROM 1 is inhibited and instead data from the region 21B is output. If the input address does not match the address data in region 21F, output from mask ROM is enabled.

As discussed at the interview, the independent claims have been amended to reflect certain aspects of a video game system. For example, claim 19 has been amended to describe that the storage device is configured for removable connection to a video game system including a video game program executing system and that the memory control circuitry of the storage device is electrically connected to the video game program executing system when the storage device is connected to the video game system. Claim 19 further describes that the memory control circuitry compares an address input thereto from the video game program executing system with an address indicative of one or more predetermined locations where dummy data is stored. Applicants respectfully submit that Takata does not disclose or suggest a storage device as described in claim 19 or in the claims that depend therefrom.

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As noted, the remaining independent claims have also been amended to include certain aspects of a video game system and Applicants likewise respectfully submit that these claims and the claims that depend therefrom are not disclosed or suggested by Takata.

For at least the reasons set forth above, the pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that further discussion would be helpful to advance prosecution, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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